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VIENNA, VA 22182-6212

EXAMINER

HEIBER, SHANTELL LAKETA

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2617

NOTIFICATION DATE	DELIVERY MODE
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ELECTRONIC

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Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments filed 8/11/10 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

The applicant argues *"Therefore, it is clear that IMSI or any part of it (NMSI) cannot contain the phone number of the subscriber because one of them (IMSI/MSISDN) can be changed independently without the other one changing and vice versa. It is well known in the art that a subscriber's phone number cannot be retrieved from the IMSI. Therefore, IMSI or NMSI cannot be referred, as submitted in the Office Action, as contact address of the user as recited in as recited in independent claims 1, 19, 32, 39, and 53. Knowing IMSI alone does not teach or enable a person of ordinary skill in the art to contact the user."* See applicant's remarks, pages 5-7. The examiner respectfully disagrees. A contact address does not have to be a phone number. A contact address is any specific identifier for identifying a particular subscriber. The NMSI is used as the contact address for the network to uniquely identify the subscriber. In group communication involving communication with a multiple of devices, in the same network and country, each of the devices would have the same MCC and MNC but different NMSI or MSIN. Therefore, in group communication, each NMSI would represent a different contact address for representing each subscriber in the group.

The applicant further argues *"However, neither the MCC nor MNC teach or suggest "single public user identity," as recited in the claims."* See applicant's remarks, pages 7-8. The examiner respectfully disagrees. It is well known in the art that the MCC and/or MNC are used as part of the IMSI to uniquely identify a group of

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subscribers in a network, such that the MCC and/or MNC would be the same for each device in the group, i.e., each user in the group, therefore, the MCC and/or MNC is the single public user identity.

Therefore, Salmivalli discloses "said control information indicating a restriction on a number of different contact addresses that can be simultaneously registered using a single public user identity" as recited in independent claim 1 and similarly recited in independent claims 19, 32, 39, and 53.